



## *Florida House of Representatives*

### Democratic Office

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## **HOUSE DEMOCRATS WELCOME PRESIDENT OBAMA**

**Caucus pledges to be “diligent watchdogs” of economic recovery funds**

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** – Florida House Democratic Leader Franklin Sands joins the House Democratic Caucus in warmly welcoming President Barack Obama to the Sunshine State on Tuesday for a discussion about the nation’s economy.

The economic recovery plan that Congress is set to finalize will create and save jobs in the near future. Just as important, the plan addresses long-neglected needs that are crucial for building a foundation for a strong economic future.

“It is time for our national leaders to move swiftly and to end the political rancor for the good of our state and the nation’s economic recovery,” said Democratic Leader Franklin Sands. “Florida House Democrats are pleased that President Obama is coming to our state to highlight the purpose for this bold economic measure.”

President Obama knows that Florida is experiencing troubling levels of unemployment, home foreclosures and bankruptcies. Many residents are also in need of vital services such as Medicaid, food stamps, and unemployment compensation.

These challenges demand action. Fortunately, the proposal in Congress will:

- Create or save more than 200,000 jobs in Florida over the next two years in a range of industries from clean energy to health care.
- Provide funds to modernize hundreds of schools and train a workforce for high-paying jobs.
- Invest in health programs, advance our nation's energy independence system, and create jobs through ready-to-go public works projects.

“Florida has been a donor state to the nation by sending more of our tax dollars to Washington than what our citizens get in return,” Sands said. “With the help of our colleagues in Congress, we expect Florida to get its fair share of this federal government handout.”

Florida House Democrats “will be diligent watchdogs,” Sands said, to ensure that financial resources that Congress pledges for economic recovery and stimulus are spent in the manner for which they are intended and so that these efforts do not become a financial shell game.

“Education, health care, and our state's transportation infrastructure are too crucial --- and the need for new jobs is too great --- for us to allow any partisan gamesmanship to weaken the intent of the economic recovery plan,” Sands said.

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